

UNCLE SAM'S TARGETS.

NEW METHODS OF TEACHING SOLDIERS TO SHOOT ACCURATELY.

Targets Are Built According to a Sensible Idea—Soldiers Will Be Taught to Hit an Enemy—Diagrams and Descriptions of the New Objects For Marksmen.

When companies C and D, of the Nineteenth Infantry, begin their range practice at Mt. Clemens one day this week, says a recent issue of the Detroit Free Press, they will fire at new targets called for by the revised regulations for small arms just issued by the War Department. The keynote of this new dispensation is to train the United States soldier to fire at the head and heart of his enemy. Target practice under the new regulations has for its objective point representations of human figures in the various positions in which the soldier would encounter his enemy in action. A glance at the accompanying illustrations will convey, better than it is possible for words to do, the full meaning of this fact.

The targets range in their distance from the soldier from 200 to 1000 yards. Careful calculation has shown that it is within these points of distance that the soldier must do his effective firing. It would be nonsense to talk of firing with accuracy with a Government small arm at a greater distance than 3020 feet. When the conflict becomes very much closer than 600 feet the only things for the soldier to remember are to keep cool and shoot at the head and heart.

The first of these targets is called a short range. Sometimes it is used for a hundred yards practice; that is, at a distance of 100 yards from the marksmen. More often it is used at 200 yards, and occasionally at 300 yards. On this target, in silhouette, is the figure of a soldier lying down, as he does in action sometimes. In such a case as this, the soldier is seen directly in his face, his head being elevated from the ground as he leans on one elbow while taking aim. In other words, it is the exact position of the skirmisher, and the skirmisher is the man at whom the soldier must ordinarily first fire, as every advance of an army is led by a skirmish line.

The centre of the target is rectangle—that is, a space of any desired size, the four sides of which are right angles. The rectangle may be in a form of a square, oblong, or diamond shaped. This centre, as it is called, is twenty-two inches high, just the height of a soldier who is lying down, and four feet wide, this latter being the width of the target. This centre is one of three divisions into which the target is platted. The next division is known as the inner, and the third or outside division is known as the outer. The score a soldier makes is made up in high or low degree by the portion of the target which his bullets strike.

These three divisions are subdivided in two sections each, these two portions being known as the right and left centers. The same rule applies to the inner and outer. To thoroughly understand just what is meant, picture to yourself something like this: Take a target six feet high and four feet wide, divide it into three sections after the fashion of the measurements given, the sections running from right to left.

at the head and heart of the figure. The nearer he comes to these marks, the higher is his score. A little careful study of the facts given in the foregoing paragraph will show what a tremendous weapon this concentrated accuracy will be in the hands of United States soldiers. It has long been a recognized fact that the great trouble in throwing masses of men into a conflict with one another was that the

consistent point in the whole scheme. There is still another target which is known as target A; that is the short range target. There is this difference, that the figure thereon is that of a soldier in the position of firing while standing. A horizontal line is drawn across the target at the middle point of the figure. Every time a soldier's bullet hits directly above this line—that is, the line across the middle—



ONE THOUSAND YARDS RANGE.

fighting was not conducted intelligently by the private soldier; that he fired recklessly with the apparent idea that it did not make much difference in what direction the bullet went so long as the cartridge left his gun. Now when the United States soldier goes into battle there will be just two points of his enemy that he will have in mind, and those will be his head and heart.

The other targets used in practice will be the midrange target intended for practice at from four to six hundred yards; the eight hundred yards



TARGET "A"—SHORT RANGE.

target, for distances of from seven hundred yards; the eight hundred yards target, for distances of from seven hundred to eight hundred yards; the thousand yards target for the range the name would indicate. The same principle described in the short range target governs all others, but, of course, there is a difference in the figure and a corresponding change in the size of the target. For instance, the midrange target in a square, six feet on a side, which is still rectangular. The figure on this is the silhouette of

or if his bullet strikes some point of the target at an angle and is deflected so that it strikes the target above the line, he scores 5. All bullets that hit the figure below the line entitle the marksman to the score of 4. If the soldier hits the target above the line but not the figure, the score is three; if below the line, 2.

Heretofore it has been the custom in many cases to allow the soldier to use in target practice various aids, such as shades for the sight, spirit levels to enable an accurate aim, and all that sort of thing. Under the new regulations the men who wear the army blue will have no aids beyond those which nature has given them, except that they may be allowed to blacken the sight of the gun, which always happens in battle, anyway, because of the powder smoke. There will be no firing from sheds or shelters of any kind. Everything must be done in the open. From this it may be seen that the new regulations, if they are lived up to in the spirit as well as the letter, will accustom the men to accurate marksmanship under all conditions and without artificial aid.

It is more than doubtful if fifty per cent. of the crack marksmen of the United States army to-day could go into action and fire with half the skill or accuracy they can at a target which they have been accustomed to pepper under the old conditions. Under this new method, however, with their sole thought being to strike the head or the heart of the humanity at which they fire, they will not be looking for a black ringed bull's-eye, but will aim at exactly what men who seek to accomplish the death of their enemies should have as their target.

Another good feature of the new departure is that the troops in every branch of the service will use in small arm practice—that is, practice with anything less than artillery—the weapon with which they are armed, instead of selecting the very best weapon that can be found for the teams picked out for practice. Officers and enlisted men of the staff corps will use the rifle as will infantry men and artillerymen. Cavalrymen will practice with the carbine. During the target season, the regular practice will be held until the prescribed course is completed, at least three times a week by each troop, battery and company, and at least once a week by each regimental non-commissioned staff and members of regimental bands.

Hereafter there will be no picked teams of men who have shown special ability as marksmen selected from the ranks to demonstrate what they can accomplish, but every enlisted man who wears the uniform of Uncle Sam will have to learn to shoot and shoot well. Each will be taught that the head and heart of the enemy are the vulnerable points. They will shoot to kill and not to maim.

A Wonderful Work.

The new railroad bridge over the Danube River, which has just been completed, is the largest in the world, and one of the most important, and the Roumanian Government is enjoying its possession with a well earned sentiment of complacent pride. The new bridge is 13,325 feet long without approaches, which would make some hundreds of feet additional. The largest vessels that sail the Danube can pass under it at the highest tide, as the lower rafters of the superstructure are 105 feet above high water mark. Some idea of the length of this bridge may be gained by comparison with the other great bridges of the world. The Tay Bridge, Scotland, is 10,725 feet; the Mississippi Bridge at Memphis, 10,600 feet; the Forth Bridge, Scotland, 7890 feet; the Morody Bridge in Galicia, 4800 feet, and the bridge over the Volga near Sysran, 4700 feet. The Danube near has one span of 620 feet and four of 455 feet each.

A Deering (Me.) farmer, who had lost a great many eggs through the depredations of some unknown visitor, to his poultry yards, at last discovered the thief to be a monstrous milk adder, measuring thirty-three inches in length.

GOWNS IN GRAY SHADES.

SOME NEW FEATURES IN THE REALM OF FASHION.

Description of a Handsome Waist in Pearl Gray, With Bolero of Cashmere and Hat of Braided Straw—A Most Becoming Linen Blazer for a Young Girl. Golf, tennis, wheeling and all outdoor sports call for the easiest possible



BLAZER FOR A YOUNG GIRL.

costumes to be worn during the oppressive summer days. May Manton writes that the model shown in the il-

lustration is in the large illustration is carried out in pearl-gray taffeta figured in red which forms the waist proper with a bolero of cashmere in the same tint. The decorations consist of black velvet ribbon and narrow gilt braid arranged in trefoil effect. The hat is of braided straw adorned with wild flowers, ribbon bow and rhinestone buckle. The waist has a foundation lining having the usual number of seams, double bust darts and closing in the center-front. The material of the back lies smoothly across the shoulders with a slight fullness at the waist collected in gathers that are drawn well to the center-back. Smooth under-arm gores join the back to the front which is smooth-fitting across the shoulders and bust, falling at the waist in slight blouse effect over a crush girdle that is deepest at the center-back. The fanciful bolero is included in the right shoulder and under-arm seam and closes invisibly on the left shoulder and under-arm with the full waist which also closes at this point.

At the neck is a close standing band, the outstanding frill of lace at the upper edge forming an effective finish. The sleeves have under and upper portions and show a modern amount of fullness above the elbow. The wrists are pointed in Venetian style and a full cap-frill stands out stylishly from the shoulders. The design, which is eminently useful, admits of various combinations and is sufficiently dressy for a church, visiting or high class social function.

To make this waist for a lady in the medium size will require three yards of forty-four inch material.

Dress Sleeve With Epaulette.

Blue and white foulard is the material selected for this stylish sleeve, which is coat-shaped, with the slight fullness at the elbow which is always desirable in such as follow the arm closely. The fitting is accomplished by inside and outside seams. The wrists have a soft frill of lace falling deeply over the hand, with band of insertion above. Double epaulettes that are lace-edged and insertion-trimmed stand out prettily at the top, affording a becoming breadth to the shoulders. The style is among the newest of sleeves.



LADIES' WAIST WITH FANCY BOLERO.

lustration combines linen canvas in the natural color with light-hued plaid in the shirt waist, and is eminently youthful at the same time that it is serviceable. Both the belt and tie are black, while the hat of rough red straw shows a trimming of black and red, with quills of the former color.

The blazer shows dartless fronts, straight backs, which terminate in underlying pleats at the waist line, side forms and under-arm gores. It is wholly unlined, the seams being neatly bound. The straight fronts turn back to form curves and meet the rollover collar in uneven notches. The sleeves are one-seamed, and show the fullness at the shoulder, which is still held correct for all outer garments. The material being washable, no interlining or stiffening is required. Collar, revers and sleeves are self-faced and finished with a single bow of stitching.

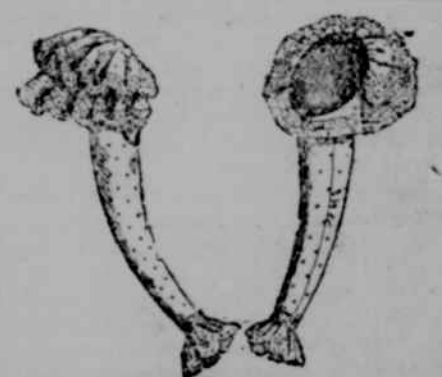
To make the blazer for a miss of fourteen years will require two and three-fourths yards of the same width goods.

Waist and Fancy Bolero.

Many of the newest and most charming gowns are shown in various

and is adapted to organdy, lawn, batiste, summer silks, cotton or light-weight woollen fabrics.

To make these sleeves for a woman of medium size will require one and



DRESS SLEEVE WITH EPAULETTE.

one-half yards of forty-four-inch material.

A Bible sold recently for \$20,000 at the sale of the Ashburnham Library in London. Several others sold for \$5000 each.



500 AND 600 YARDS TARGET, SHOWING EFFECT OF 150 SHOTS FIRED BY INFANTRY AT 500 YARDS.

Then draw a line directly through the center of this target from top to bottom. First you have the centre, twenty-two inches high and four feet wide. Then comes the inner which is a rectangle also. This inner runs in depth from a point forty-two inches above the bottom of the target to the lower line of the centre. The entire target forms a rectangle six feet high and four feet wide.

There is no bull's-eye—Creedmoor fashion—shooting in this sort of target practice. The soldier is taught to aim

a soldier in kneeling position.

The eight hundred yards target as it is called, that being the limit of distance from the marksmen at which the target can be placed, is six feet high and twelve feet wide. On this target is the silhouette of a soldier standing. On the target with the thousand yard range is the figure of a mounted soldier, but the legs of the horse are cut off at a height of two feet from the ground. Just why this has been done no one seems to really know, and it is considered that here, if any, is the only in-